Million $ Match! Donate Now How to Maximize Your Impact!

04/02/24 • COVID › NEWS

Rutgers Abruptly Ends COVID Vaccine Mandate, CHD Still Planning Supreme Court Appeal

Rutgers' surprise decision Monday to end its COVID-19 vaccine mandate won't stop Children's Health Defense (CHD) and Rutgers students from appealing their legal challenge to the U.S. Supreme Court, according to the attorney representing CHD and the students.

By John-Michael Dumais

18

Miss a day, miss a lot. *Subscribe to The Defender's Top News of the Day.* ***It's free.***

Rutgers University on Monday suspended its COVID-19 vaccine mandate for students, faculty and staff, effective immediately. Face coverings and testing for COVID-19 will also no longer be required.

The decision comes amid an ongoing lawsuit filed by Children's Health Defense (CHD) and a group of Rutgers students alleging the mandate violated the students' right to control their own bodies.

Julio C. Gomez, lead attorney for the plaintiffs, told The Defender that despite Rutgers likely taking the position that any further appeals are moot, "We are planning to appeal further to the U.S. Supreme Court, continuing to press our position that Rutgers never had the power to do what it did," he said.

CHD General Counsel Kim Mack Rosenberg told The Defender that while she was pleased that Rutgers had finally abandoned its mandates and was proud of CHD's efforts to stop them, Rutgers' actions highlight that it "has never really followed the law or the science in mandating this vaccine."

Mack Rosenberg criticized Rutgers for being "one of very few colleges and universities in the U.S. still mandating the vaccine up until now."

In an email to the college community, Rutgers wrote, "Since March 2020 we have relied on science," explaining that it had followed guidance from "our own experts and from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on how to best manage the COVID-19 pandemic."

Lucia Sinatra, co-founder of No College Mandates, said she was both relieved and frustrated by the announcement.

"It's just incredibly hard to believe that our justice system does not value informed consent and medical freedom as a fundamental human right — as a constitutional right," she told The Defender.

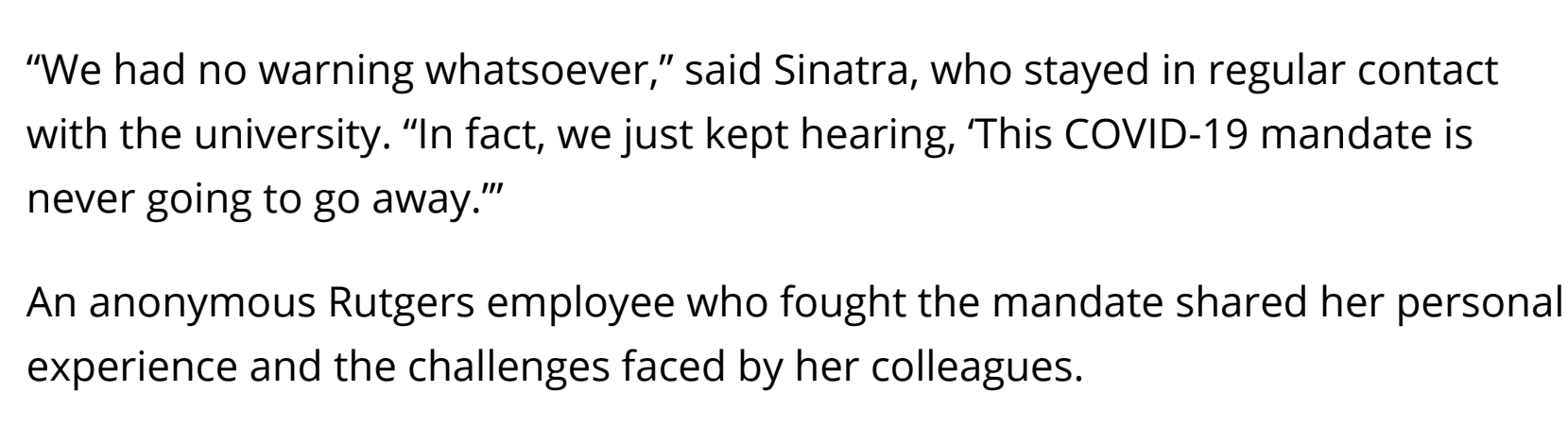
'They're still convinced they did the right thing'

Sinatra, who has been actively advocating for the removal of college vaccine mandates, was taken aback by Rutgers' sudden change in policy.

"We had no warning whatsoever," said Sinatra, who stayed in regular contact with the university. "In fact, we just kept hearing, 'This COVID-19 mandate is never going to go away.'"

An anonymous Rutgers employee who fought the mandate shared her personal experience and the challenges faced by her colleagues.

"I have a very close colleague who was basically forced to resign due to the booster mandate," she told The Defender. She also spoke of students who were refused exemptions from the booster shots, even after providing evidence of harm from the initial vaccine doses.



Your support helps fund this work, and CHD's related advocacy, education and scientific research.

DONATE NOW

The employee also criticized the university's failure to acknowledge the harms caused by the vaccines and said she is concerned this kind of overreach could happen again.

"The problem is, some of the key decision-makers at Rutgers still think they're heroes," she said. "They're still convinced they did the right thing."

The university's decision received mixed reactions, with some parents expressing relief and others vowing never to forgive Rutgers for initially implementing the mandate, according to Sinatra.

Many Rutgers alumni also continue to be vocal, some even vowing not to "give another penny to the school until they're held accountable," Sinatra said.

Lauren Palmer, a recent graduate of the University of Vermont who helped create the Student Declaration 2023 against "past, present, and future mandates," told The Defender she was "amazed" Rutgers had held on to the mandates for so long.

Palmer talked about the shaming of the unvaccinated on campuses and, when mandates were lifted, about the "absolute silence" of fellow students who no longer wanted to discuss them.

"Because we're the next generation of upcoming leaders and workers, if we don't reflect on what's just happened over the past three or four years, we're probably doomed to repeat it at some point," she said.

Healthcare students off the hook — but not at all colleges

Sinatra said it was "a huge deal" that the cessation of mandates at Rutgers encompassed healthcare students and staff, including those in clinical settings.

Many such students had been forced to take the vaccines at Rutgers and other schools up to this point — even at schools that had lifted the mandates for the general student population.

Rutgers joins Harvard University, which several weeks ago suspended its vaccine requirements for all students, including healthcare students, according to Sinatra.

This move sets the two schools apart from others like Johns Hopkins, which recently lifted its general student mandate but maintained the vaccine requirement for those in healthcare settings, she said.

Given that Harvard and Rutgers were the first two colleges to announce COVID-19 vaccine mandates in 2021, Sinatra expressed hope that this decision signals the beginning of the end for COVID-19 vaccine mandates at the remaining 40 or so colleges that still have them in place.

She also highlighted the potential impact of continued COVID-19 mandates on university enrollments, as some families have chosen to avoid these schools altogether.

"From what I'm hearing from parents, from the noise that we're making on social media, there are families that are completely taking these colleges off their list because these mandates were in place for so long," she said.

RFK Jr. and Brian Hooker's *New* Book: "Vax-Unvax"

ORDER NOW

Rutgers' controversial mandate and CHD's pushback

Rutgers University was the first university in the nation to announce that it would require students to take COVID-19 vaccines for the fall 2021 semester, threatening to disenroll students who did not comply.

Many were surprised by the decision, as the university had stated in January 2021 that the vaccine would not be mandatory.

In response to the mandate, CHD and 18 students filed a lawsuit against Rutgers on Aug. 16, 2021, arguing that "All people have the right to decide their own medical treatment — especially, to decide what to inject into their bodies."

The complaint also alleged that Rutgers had a financial incentive to require vaccination, as the university was involved in COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials with Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson.

On Sept. 27, 2021, U.S. District Judge Zahid N. Quraishi denied CHD's efforts to obtain a temporary restraining order against the university.

The case was eventually dismissed in October 2022, prompting CHD to appeal the decision.

In February 2023, the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled on an appeal filed by CHD and 13 of the students who had originally sued Rutgers. The court said Rutgers had a rational basis for the mandate as part of its efforts to curb the pandemic on campus.

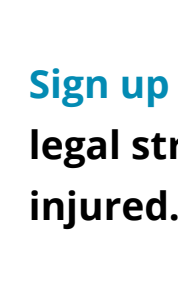
The ruling also noted there is no "unqualified right to attend a university, let alone the university of one's choice, without conditions."

Despite a dissenting opinion from one of the judges, who argued that the students should be allowed to amend their complaints given the shifting circumstances surrounding COVID-19 vaccine policies, the court ultimately ruled in favor of Rutgers.

Subscribe to The Defender – It's Free!

First Name.. Last Name.. Email.. SIGN UP

SUGGEST A CORRECTION



John-Michael Dumais

John-Michael Dumais is a news editor for The Defender. He has been a writer and community organizer on a variety of issues, including the death penalty, war, health freedom and all things related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sign up for free news and updates from Children's Health Defense. CHD focuses on legal strategies to defend the health of our children and obtain justice for those injured. We can't do it without your support.

Republishing Guidelines

Children's Health Defense Comment Policy

We welcome relevant and respectful comments. Off-topic comments may be removed.

Please read our Comment Policy before commenting.

Got it

Donate Now

You make the difference.

Latest News

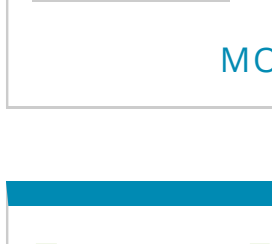
Did the WHO Water Down Its 'Pandemic Treaty'? Not Really, Experts Say

'A Dangerous Vaccine for a Nothing Disease': U.S. Stockpiling Bird Flu Vaccines

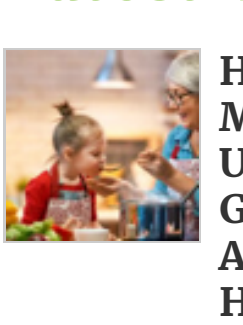
WHO, Media Drum Up Fear of Bird Flu Spreading to Humans

MORE NEWS

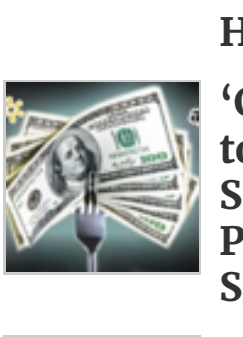
Latest Views



How What You Eat May Change Your Unborn Children's Genes — and Affect Their Health



'Corporate Greed' to Blame for Soaring Food Prices, FTC Report Says



Australia's Public Broadcaster Partners With Trusted News Initiative to 'Protect Public' From 'Misinformation'

MORE VIEWS

Get FREE News & Updates!

First Name..
Last Name..
Email..
SIGN UP

Get Text Alerts

Sign up for breaking news from The Defender

123-456-7890

REQUIRED. Phone number must be in a standard 10-digit format: 1234567890 or 123-456-7890

18 Comments

Login ▾

Join the discussion…

LOG IN WITH

OR SIGN UP WITH DISQUS ?

Name

♡ 3 Share

Best Newest Oldest

notaluvvie
22 days ago

The ruling also noted there is no "unqualified right to attend a university, let alone the university of one's choice, without conditions."

That might be fine before you enter such an august body of the corrupt, but you don't move the goalposts once the students are in.

10 0 Reply

> **CastleConnell** → notaluvvie
> 22 days ago
>
> That is just what I wrote before I read your comment.
>
> 1 0 Reply

Laura Pieters
22 days ago

I stopped donating to my alma mater because of the vaccine mandate. They just rolled it back March 2024. I still don't have a good feeling about them. How can that be a good education system?

9 0 Reply

CastleConnell
22 days ago

The ruling also noted there is no "unqualified right to attend a university, let alone the university of one's choice, without conditions." So, yes you can choose another university if you don't like their conditions, but what if you are mid-way through your degree, and they shift the goal post, changing the conditions which played a role in your purchasing their services to begin with. It is a change in the contract. Rutgers is doing an about face because of lawsuits, they know the game is up. They held on as long as they could but with Harvard and the skullduggery being exposed, they have to cave. I know the Judge sided with them, but overall, the students win by not having to take the clot shot.

7 0 Reply

GarySummers
22 days ago

"Sharing Is Caring"

New Zealand government data shows that the COVID vaccines make you MORE likely to die from COVID (not less)

Wow. Finally crystal clear government data shows **the more you vax, the more likely you are to die from COVID. This is the OPPOSITE of what the US health authorities and medical community told us.**

https://kirschsubstack.com/...

5 0 Reply

mws13
22 days ago

Thank you Kim, Mary and Team CHD.

4 0 Reply

GarySummers
22 days ago edited

Hopefully CHD will join this Grass Roots Legal Action?"
***BREAKING* 'Sharing Is Caring'!**
"Is Justice Coming For Victims of COVID Wrongful Deaths?"

Such justice soon may be coming due in large part to the **dedicated efforts of two attorneys in Florida (working pro bono) to thoroughly research the criminal codes of 25 states to identify crimes committed by various high-level officials and organizations prior to and during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

One of the attorneys, a former prosecutor, prepared extensive legal briefs (documenting strong evidence of crimes) that have been submitted to the attorneys general of Texas and Florida—the brief was subsequently filed with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

Anthony Fauci, ex-Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
Cliff Lane, Deputy Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
Francis Collins, ex-Director, National Institutes of Health
Deborah Birx, ex-White House COVID Response Coordinator & former Director of HIV Research at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research

see more

4 0 Reply

r2bzjudge
21 days ago

Rutgers wrote, "Since March 2020 we have relied on science,"

Contradicted by "The employee also criticized the university's failure to acknowledge the harms caused by the vaccines..." Pfizer's own documentation stated there were some 1,100 adverse events associated with the Covid shots. Science was not being followed. Rutgers ignored that VAERS was off the charts with adverse event reports.

'They're still convinced they did the right thing'

Are they, or is it just a false narrative Rutgers is claiming to the public, to protect themselves? In May 2021, the CDC stopped collecting breakthrough infection data from the states. CDC knew the shots were not effective. As it turned out, the shots were not even tested to determine if they prevented transmission. "You're a dead end for the virus," morphed into "it may reduce your symptoms." If nothing else, at that point there was no reason to mandate a shot that didn't prevent Covid. Even more so, the shots should never have been mandated in the first place, as there was no long term safety data. Again, science was not being followed when Comirnaty was approved by the FDA.

Critical thinkers, who relied on science, declined the Covid shots.

3 0 Reply

Jason Millman
16 days ago

The damage is done already. Also, why is CHD not talking about the elphant in the room? There is no v-rus? None. Why not sue the CDC?

1 0 Reply

bcainw
17 days ago

In my version of the Garden of Eden one should always be encouraged to eat from the tree of knowledge but should never meddle with the tree of life as that is above the pay grade of ANY human: past, present or future. Think of the sorcerers apprentice and all the unanticipated problems his meddling created. Those of us that understand the complexity of the global ecosystem tend to abide by the precautionary principle. The globalists have the audacity to think they can meddle with the Tree of Life with no consequence. They they seem to abide by the "Let's just do shit and see what happens" principle. I can't seem to find an antonym for the Precautionary Principle.

Our globalist corporations have obviously ignored this warning as GMO farming began/expanded in the early 1990's. Using CRISPR and other cutting edge technologies they have meddled with the tree of life: terminator seeds, plants that produce insecticides (which we eat), spraying plants with Glyphosate etc. Already it is clear these technologies are causing harm to human health. Then we have fluoride in the water supply, endocrine disruptors, PFAS chemicals etc., in or food and water. None of this makes sense and represents a willful refusal to consider what our collective knowledge (e.g., the tree of knowledge) should be telling us about the harm these substances unleash on the human population. But is goes on unabated because global corporations can profit in the short run.

see more

1 0 Reply

Stephen Simac
21 days ago

Forty colleges still mandate covaxxes, plus many other injections are not going to be challenged- since they're "perfectly safe and effective" as all childhood vaccines are known to be. That is irony- soon to be made illegal, along with context about Israel-Palestine.

1 0 Reply

Michael
22 days ago

Guess which vaccine manufacturer is a large funder to the medical college?

1 0 Reply

GarySummers
22 days ago

"*"Scientific Proof Covid Jab is Murder" – Dr. Vernon Coleman
Circulation Study Concludes: **"mRNA vacs dramatically increase inflammation on the endothelium and T cell infiltration of cardiac muscle"***

A couple of hours ago Darren Smith, the editor of the excellent The Light Paper, sent me a paper from the medical journal Circulation which proves that the covid-19 jabbing experiment has to stop today.

'We conclude that the mRNA vacs dramatically increase inflammation on the endothelium and T cell infiltration of cardiac muscle and may account for the observations of increased thrombosis, cardiomyopathy and other vascular events following vaccination.'

https://bluecat.media/scien...

1 0 Reply

> **notaluvvie** → GarySummers
> 22 days ago
>
> Will Jacinta apologise? I fall about laughing.
>
> 0 0 Reply
>
> > **GarySummers** → notaluvvie
> > 22 days ago edited
> >
> > Doubtful, Plus I think Harvard is still Mandating the Jabs? Along with those who wish to work for VA Health System?
> >
> > **"A summary of the evidence against the COVID vaccines"**
> > Here's a quick summary of the key pieces of evidence that taken together show that the **COVID vaccines are unsafe and that the medical community should… not be trusted.**
> > https://kirschsubstack.com/...
> >
> > 1 0 Reply

Frederick Lee
17 days ago

University's are the very institutuons that should have, collectively or individually, discovered that the big pharma research was either flawed or rushed to market.
Instead they hid behind group think of "follow the science."
Until these institutions can admit they too were victims of propaganda, they cannot be trusted. Of course, once they admit that, they certainly lose our trust. (So they must deny, deny, deny.) And a university that cannot be trusted is merely a school with students that have easier access to resources, but is without competent leadership. And that really comes as no surprise.
Unfortunately for the Rutgers students, etc, their hard earned degrees are greatly devalued because the people that awarded their diplomas, were fooled by the scam of the decade.

0 0 Reply

GarySummers
20 days ago

*BREAKING**
"German Gov't Admits There Was No Pandemic"

"The secret government documents – all 2,000 pages of them – **reveal that we were right about nearly everything and the so-called "pandemic" was all fraud."**

Unfortunately for the vaxxed, the bad news doesn't end there. **Japanese researchers have linked Covid vaccines to hundreds of diseases.**

https://thepeoplesvoice.tv/...

0 0 Reply

kaoshispano
21 days ago

That University is not with technical advisors until TODAY?.... this is for laughing if this would not be an impunity total GENOCIDE.

0 0 Reply

Subscribe Privacy Do Not Sell My Data

THE DEFENDER IS AVAILABLE IN:

ENGLISH SPANISH PORTUGUESE GERMAN ITALIAN FRENCH

Children's Health Defense

Children's Health Defense® is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our mission is to end childhood health epidemics by working aggressively to eliminate harmful exposures, hold those responsible accountable and establish safeguards to prevent future harm. We fight corruption, mass surveillance and censorship that put profits before people as well as advocate for worldwide rights to health freedom and bodily autonomy.

TAKE ACTION

DONATE FREE SIGN-UP BECOME A MEMBER

Donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. EIN #26-0388604

Children's Health Defense • Legal Disclaimer • Terms of Use • Privacy Policy • Donate • About Us • Work for CHD • Contact • Social • Membership Login & FAQ

© 2016 - 2024 Children's Health Defense® • All Rights Reserved • Sitemap